

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

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D/HA:KHILL

NSC/GTREVERTON(SUBS)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO CSCE COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 183005

BELGRADE FOR USDEL CSCE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CSCE

SUBJECT: CSCE BELGRADE: PRESS GUIDANCE

REF: STATE 180133

1. THIS MESSAGE TRANSMITS PRESS GUIDANCE PREPARED FOR
DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN FOR USE IN REPLYING TO QUESTIONS
ON CONCLUSION OF CSCE PREPARATORY MEETING IN BELGRADE,
WHICH IS EXPECTED TOMORROW. POSTS SHOULD DRAW UPON
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GUIDANCE AS APPROPRIATE IN DISCUSSIONS WITH THE PRESS
AND WITH HOST GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS UPON CONCLUSION OF
THE MEETING.

2. GUIDANCE IS AS FOLLOWS:

A. THE BELGRADE PREPARATORY MEETING HAS CONCLUDED WITH

CONSENSUS ON AN AGENDA AND PLAN OF ORGANIZATION FOR THE REVIEW CONFERENCE THIS FALL. THE CONCLUDING DOCUMENT AMPLY ACHIEVES THE AIMS WHICH THE UNITED STATES SOUGHT FROM THE PREPARATORY MEETING.

B. OUR MAIN GOAL AT BELGRADE IS TO ACHIEVE A REALISTIC REVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FINAL ACT AND TO ENSURE THAT THE CSCE PROCESS, WHICH OFFERS MANY POSSIBILITIES FOR EAST-WEST CONTACTS, WILL CONTINUE. WE ALSO WANT AN OPPORTUNITY TO PRESENT NEW PROPOSALS AND CONSIDER THOSE OF OTHERS. WE WANT TO DO THIS IN AN ORGANIZED AND NON-POLEMICAL MANNER.

C. THE DOCUMENT ADOPTED AT THE PREPARATORY MEETING PROVIDES AN EXCELLENT BASIS FOR PURSUING OUR AIMS:

(1) THE AGENDA PROVIDES FOR A "THOROUGH EXCHANGE OF VIEWS" ON IMPLEMENTATION AS SPECIFIED IN THE FINAL ACT. IT PROVIDES FOR AN OPEN PLENARY SESSION AT WHICH THERE CAN BE A PUBLIC EXCHANGE OF GENERAL VIEWS AND FOR SEVERAL WEEKS OF CLOSED DISCUSSIONS WHERE DETAILS CAN BE RAISED.

(2) THERE IS A SEPARATE AGENDA ITEM ON FOLLOW-UP TO THE CONFERENCE AND AGREEMENT THAT THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE WILL NOT BE CONCLUDED UNTIL THE DATE AND PLACE OF THE NEXT FOLLOW-UP MEETING HAVE BEEN SET. THIS ENSURES THAT THERE UNCLASSIFIED

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WILL BE ANOTHER BELGRADE-STYLE FOLLOW-UP CONFERENCE.

(3) THERE IS SPECIFIC PROVISION FOR THE DRAFTING OF A FINAL DOCUMENT AND DETAILED ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF THE DOCUMENT ITSELF. THE EXISTENCE OF A FINAL DOCUMENT WILL PROVIDE US AN EXCELLENT VEHICLE TO EXPRESS OUR VIEWS ON IMPORTANT ISSUES AND GUARANTEES THAT AGREEMENTS ON FOLLOW-UP WILL BE ACKNOWLEDGED FORMALLY.

(4) THE ORGANIZATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS INCLUDE ESTABLISHMENT OF FIVE WORKING BODIES TO COVER EACH OF THE SUBJECT AREAS (BASKETS I, II, III, MEDITERRANEAN QUESTIONS AND FOLLOW-UP). THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR DISCUSSIONS IN WORKING BODIES MAKE CLEAR THAT THEY WILL PROCEED "IN AN ORGANIZED WAY IN ACCORDANCE WITH ALL THE CORRESPONDING PROVISIONS OF THE FINAL ACT." THIS WILL ENSURE THAT EACH SECTION OF THE FINAL ACT IS TAKEN UP AND WILL HELP GUARD AGAINST EFFORTS TO SLIDE OVER AREAS WHERE IMPLEMENTATION HAS NOT BEEN SATISFACTORY.

(5) THE SCHEDULE OF WORK PROVIDES TWELVE WEEKS IN WHICH TO CONDUCT THE REVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION AND TO CONSIDER

PROPOSALS FOR FUTURE COOPERATION. THERE ARE ALSO DETAILED ARRANGEMENTS WHICH PROVIDE, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT MEETINGS OF THE SPECIAL WORKING BODIES WILL BEGIN NOT LATER THAN TWO WEEKS AFTER THE START OF THE CONFERENCE, IN ORDER TO ENSURE THAT THE WORKING BODIES HAVE ENOUGH TIME FOR DETAILED DISCUSSION.

(6) THE INITIAL TARGET DATE FOR CONCLUSION OF DISCUSSIONS IS DECEMBER 22, 1977. THE UNITED STATES BELIEVES THAT THE TWELVE WEEKS UP TO DECEMBER 22 SHOULD BE SUFFICIENT TO COMPLETE THE TASKS OF THE CONFERENCE. HOWEVER, TO ENSURE THAT ALL TASKS ARE COMPLETED, THE DOCUMENT PROVIDES ALSO FOR A ONE MONTH EXTENSION FROM MID-JANUARY TO MID-FEBRUARY AND SPECIFIES THAT THE CONCLUDING DOCUMENT MUST BE AGREED UNCLASSIFIED

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AND THAT THE DATE AND PLACE OF THE NEXT FOLLOW-UP CONFERENCE MUST BE SET BEFORE THE MEETING CONCLUDES. IN OUR EXPERIENCE AT THE PREPARATORY MEETING, WE FOUND A CLOSE COMMUNITY OF INTERESTS, ATTITUDES AND EXPECTATIONS WITH OUR ALLIES AND THE NEUTRAL AND NON-ALIGNED PARTICIPANTS. OUR EXPERIENCE WITH THE SOVIETS AND THEIR ALLIES WAS THAT THEY CAME TO BELGRADE READY TO ENGAGE IN SERIOUS DISCUSSION OF THE ISSUES AND THAT THEY HAD A FULL UNDERSTANDING OF OUR COMMITMENT TO HUMAN RIGHTS AND TO A COMPLETE REVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FINAL ACT.

CHRISTOPHER

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